



MITCHELL E. DANIELS, Jr., Governor
STATE OF INDIANA

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

J. ERIC DIETZ, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Indiana Government Center South
302 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-232-3980*

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IDHS RECOGNIZES NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

ASKS HOOSIERS TO MAINTAIN THEIR SMOKE DETECTORS

Indianapolis – This year's National Fire Prevention Week focuses on candle safety, a growing home fire concern. The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) asks citizens to exercise caution with candles and recall this year's National Fire Prevention Week theme: "Use Candles with Care: When you go out, blow out!"

"Fires caused by unattended candles have risen steadily over the last decade. Such fires can be prevented if we remember to simply, and carefully, blow out a burning candle before leaving a room," said Roger Johnson, the Indiana State Fire Marshal and IDHS Division of Fire and Building Safety Director."

In addition to candle safety, IDHS asks all Hoosiers to take time during National Fire Prevention Week to ensure their residences have working smoke detectors and a fire escape plan.

"Maintaining a smoke detector does not take much effort, which makes it unfortunate lives have been lost in Indiana due to the lack of a working smoke detector in homes," said Johnson. "Every residence should have a working smoke detector on each level that is tested monthly with batteries changed annually."

National Fire Prevention Week, sponsored by the National Fire Protection Association, runs October 9 through 15. Visit www.firepreventionweek.org or www.nfpa.org for more information on Fire Prevention Week and fire safety.

EDITOR'S NOTE: A Public Service Announcement (PSA) from IDHS on smoke detectors is attached. Additional PSAs on Fire Prevention Week and candle safety are available at the National Fire Protection Association's website: www.firepreventionweek.org.

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Media Contact:

Pam Bright, IDHS Director of Public Information & Outreach
317-232-6632